



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office
2400 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Lt. Col. Tim Donovan
608-242-3050
Cell: 608-516-1777

December 28, 2004 (6:00 a.m.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement by Maj. Gen. Albert H. Wilkening on the death of Wisconsin Army National Guard Staff Sergeant Todd D. Olson

Words cannot express the sadness the entire Wisconsin National Guard family feels following the death of Staff Sergeant Todd D. Olson. Staff Sergeant Olson was one of Wisconsin's finest — a citizen-soldier of the Wisconsin Army National Guard who served his state and nation with honor, distinction and valor as a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry in Neillsville. Staff Sergeant Olson died from wounds received in action in Samarra, Iraq, Sunday when an improvised explosive device detonated.

My heartfelt condolences go out to Staff Sergeant Olson's family and loved ones. I pledge to the Olsons all the support of the Wisconsin National Guard they may need during the difficult days and weeks ahead.

In tribute to Staff Sergeant Todd Olson I am ordering the flags at all Wisconsin National Guard armories, air bases and other facilities lowered to half-staff beginning Tuesday morning, December 28, and continuing until sunset on the day of his funeral service.

On behalf of all 9,900 of Staff Sergeant Olson's fellow soldiers and airmen of Wisconsin's National Guard, I salute this fallen hero and pray for the protection and eventual safe return of 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, and the continued safety of nearly 1,100 soldiers and airmen of the Wisconsin National Guard who are currently serving in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Major General Albert H. Wilkening
The Adjutant General of Wisconsin

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